

c) Remarks:

The claims are 3,7 and 9-16 with claims 3 and 7 being independent. Claim 9 now depends on claim 3 and claim 10 now depends on claim 7. The claims have also been amended to resolve minor informalities unrelated to patentability. Reconsideration of the claims is expressly requested.

Claims 3 and 7 are the only independent claims. The only rejection relevant to claims 3 and 7 in the outstanding official action is the rejection of claims 2-4 and 6-8 as obvious over Suzuki JP '764. Accordingly, once claims 3 and 7 are deemed allowable, then all the claims will be deemed allowable since all they depend on either claim 3 or claim 7.

It should be understood that claims 3 and 7 are directed to a compound having dimethylfluorene which is penta- or hexyl- substituted to a central benzene group. These compounds are illustrated as Compounds 1 and 11 on specification pages 13 and 15, respectively. These compounds were tested in the Examples and the results reported in Tables 2 and 5. The compounds were found to be highly beneficial.

In contrast, Suzuki JP '764 discloses in paragraphs [0014-0015] and [0018 - 0029] compounds in which at least one of the condensed polycyclic groups has at least one acceptor substituent which is carbonyl, dicyanomethyl or ditrifluoromethyl. The Examiner's attention is directed to Suzuki JP '764 paragraphs [0014], [0015], [0020], [0021], and [0089-0092]. The exemplified compounds in paragraphs [0089 - 0092] each require the presence of a carbonyl, dicyanomethyl or di-trifluoromethyl group on a condensed polycyclic compound such as fluorene.

These acceptor substituents generally result in a reduction in the band gap and

in the lengthening of the wavelength of the emitted light of PL. The present claimed invention is not subject to these defects and is therefore particularly appropriate as a blue host material.

Suzuki also fails to teach or suggest that a central benzene group has five or six dimethyl-substituted fluorene rings substituted thereon. The only Suzuki compound with dimethyl-fluorene substitution is compound 17 in paragraph [0091]. That compound is only di-fluorenyl substituted and also includes the presence of a carboxyl acceptor group in another fused ring substituent.

Accordingly, Suzuki fails to teach or suggest the present claimed invention nor the advantages and benefits thereof.

Therefore, the claims should be allowed and that the case should be passed to issue.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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